

2nd Grade Scoop

Dec. 5-9, 2011		Mrs. Spielmann	West Central Elementary
<p><u>Character Education</u> The Character Education word for December is: Kindness. Kindness is being positive, honoring our differences, listening to one another, and discovering our similarities.</p> <p>Each week we will be giving away Subway certificates to students who exhibit Kindness characteristics!</p>	<p><u>Math</u> This week we will be working with subtraction strategies, and mental math. Please work with your child on memorizing math flash cards in addition and subtraction. We continue to do Mad Minute Math tests and CGI problems on a daily basis.</p> <p>-----</p> <p><u>Just a reminder: Homework is:</u> *Study spelling words *Read for 20 minutes every night *Memorize math flash cards for addition and subtraction *Practice writing short stories *Please remember to initial your child's planner with time read each night. Thank you for your continued support. Your children will benefit!</p>	<p><u>Creative Writing</u> We are writing stories every day. We use various prompts that are original, fun, and thought-provoking. The students really get excited when it is writing time. We also share our stories with the class on our "Author's Chair."</p> <p>-----</p> <p><u>Spelling</u> The students are working on ir, er, ear sounds in words this week in spelling. We are doing Differentiated Spelling. Each child will come home with their own personal list of words in their Planners. Daily activities to reinforce spelling words include: Word Search, ABC Order, Double Puzzle, write a letter to your teacher using list words and finding meanings of the spelling words in the dictionary.</p>	 <p><u>Dates to Remember:</u> December 13- Bookmobile December 14 - Inservice - Dismiss 1:30 December 16 - Trojan Buck Store December 21 - Christmas Party 2:15</p> <p>-----</p> <p><u>Phonics & Grammar</u> Genre: Realistic Fiction and connect prior knowledge Reading: "Laurel's Rainforest" Guided Reading Groups: Fluency, comprehension skills, predicting, and author's message, non-fiction, and author's purpose. Independent Reading and A.R. Tests ***** Check out this website to see if a book your child is reading at home is an AR Book. https://www.renlearn.com/store/quiz_home.asp</p>
<p><u>Social Studies/ Weekly Reader</u> This week we will be learning about various kinds of penguins. <u>Vocabulary Words:</u> emperor, species of penguins</p> 			

Vocabulary

With our Language Arts series, the students are exposed to high frequency and robust vocabulary words. Vocabulary is critical to reading success because it supports comprehension and communication.

High Frequency Words for this week are: care, father, interesting, swear, thumb, touch

Robust Vocabulary Words for this week are: dappled, entranced, trooped, circling, adorable, assortment, habitat, immense

Quick Tip: To expose your child to these words, one suggestion may include placing word cards around the house and having the student read and define the words as they find them.

In our literacy centers, we place the words on index cards with the definitions on the back. The students read the cards and work with partners to become more familiar with the words.

Writing: (Writing complete sentences)

We will write paragraphs about various pictures. Writing Trait: (Ideas) Conventions (using the correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling). We will also work on describing. The students will also work on using effective word choices in their writing-such as rhyming words and colorful words to clarify description and revise word choices.

Bullying Contract: I promise I will not bully others. I promise I will not hurt others through my words or my actions. I promise to: Be kind. Be safe. Be ready to learn!

Read Aloud Charts

"Macaw" (describing how we listen for a purpose)

Students will discuss what they enjoyed most about the poem.

"Be Kind to Animals" - Students will think about what is happening in the poem and the feeling they get from listening to it.

Listening Center

Stories: "Rain Forest Babies" by Kathy Darling
Genre: **Non-Fiction**
While listening to these stories, the students will learn new vocabulary words which include: year, imagine, favorite, board, popular

The students will also orally discuss beginning, middle and end of the story & author's message. They will also learn about story structure.

Snacks

- 5- Keighlor
- 6 - Abby, Derek
- 7- Jacob, Hannah
- 8 - Tevan, Zach S.
- 9- Tanner, Grace

Thanks for providing snacks!!



Our Christmas Party will be held on **December 21 at 2:15.**

We will **NOT** be having a student gift exchange so if you would like to donate a book to our class that would be great! I also ask for \$2.00-\$3.00 to contribute for a gift from our class. It will be from our Giving Tree here at school. This is **INSTEAD** of buying a gift for me. Thank you so much! We want to help make some family have a nice holiday! The deadline is December 9 for the Giving Tree.

Quotes of the Week-

"The more we share, the more we have!" George Shaw

"The most I have learned is from my students!" Malcolm Forbes

West Central Mission Statement: "To prepare all students for learning and living in a changing world." West Central Hartford Elementary Mission Statement: "Instill in our students a love of learning, a desire to know and to do what is right, and the knowledge and skill to face the future with courage."

The Activation Code for ordering Scholastic Books on line is: GYPR7. The website is: http://teacher.scholastic.com/clubs/parent_landing.htm Enjoy shopping! We will receive \$3.00 for each book ordered. We are excited about filling up our classroom library! Also - go to my Wiki space: <http://carolynsp.wikispaces.com/> for all kinds of classroom information! Thanks!